

Matrimonial Litigation Support Workshop to Be Held in Chicago

Richmond, VA—Remember the movie, “War of the Roses” where Barbara Rose (Kathleen Turner) wants the house and everything in it and her husband Oliver (Michael Douglas) fights her request? They declare war on each other, destroy the house and lose everything. There are many ways to handle divorces, and the Consultants’ Training Institute (CTI) is offering practitioners from all over the country a first-of-its-kind training program, *Matrimonial Litigation Support: Fundamentals, Techniques, and Theory* in Chicago, Illinois October 18–21, 2004.

“Typically, you would have to attend four separate courses at various locations offered by different organizations to cover the material presented in this workshop,” said partner and senior instructor Bill Barrett, III. “What differentiates this program is the integration of multi-disciplines that come into play in a divorce dispute, including arbitration and mediation options,” he said.

The course is being co-sponsored by the Consultants’ Training Institute, Urbach & Avraham, CPAs, and Barrett, PC. Design and instruction team leaders Jeffrey D. Urbach and Bill Barrett will lead the four-day program, the only course of its kind specializing in valuations, asset tracing, property distribution and forensic matters. The program is designed for people new to the field, first time and/or senior financial planners, brokers, accountants and attorneys.

The *Matrimonial Litigation Support* workshop prepares participants for trial, covers document management, buy-sell agreements, complying with ethical and professional standards and covenants not to compete. They discuss tax matters such as Qualified Domestic Relations Orders (QDROs), innocent spouse issues, professional/personal goodwill in a divorce, and community property issues versus equitable distribution. Forensic accounting experts talk about hidden assets, income reconstruction and fraud detection techniques. The course comes with a CD that includes case studies, letters and reports, IRS forms, financial disclosures and sample engagement letters.

A lot of family law cases are settled out of court by mediation or arbitration. “In Florida, 98 percent of the cases are settled before trial and it is becoming a national trend. This course introduces Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) to practitioners as a viable alternative to going to court,” said Barrett.

The CTI brings experts from many consulting disciplines to venues where participants can obtain advanced training to further their careers and provide additional services to their clients.